Attorney Docket No.: 960296.95360

Applicant: Ronald T. Raines

Application No.: 09/234,028 Filed: 01/20/1999

Group Art Unit: 1652 Examiner: Richard G. Hutson

Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated: July 28, 2008

Response dated: July 31, 2008

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Currently amended) An oxidation-resistant engineered ribonuclease inhibitor (RI) variant selected from the group consisting of
- (i) an RI variant differing from reference SEQ ID NO: 3, wherein the difference consists of at least one of the residues an alanine residue at positions position 95, 96, 329 and or 330 being an alanine; and
- (ii) an RI variant differing from reference SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the difference consists of at least one of the residues an alanine residue at positions position 324 and or 325 being an alanine,

the variant having a greater resistance to oxidation relative to the reference sequence for the variant and retaining its specificity and binding affinity to ribonuclease.

- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Previously presented) The ribonuclease inhibitor variant of claim 1, wherein the difference inhibits the formation of a disulfide bond with an adjacent cysteine residue.

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- 5. (Previously presented) The ribonuclease inhibitor variant of claim 18, wherein the variant is 10 to 15 fold more resistant to oxidative damage than a native ribonuclease inhibitor.
 - 6. (Cancelled)
- 7. (Previously presented) The ribonuclease inhibitor variant of claim 1, wherein the variant exhibits an *in vitro* inhibition of ribonucleolytic activity.
 - 8. (Cancelled)
- 9. (Previously presented) The ribonuclease inhibitor variant of claim 18, having specificity and affinity for binding to angiogenin of the reference SEQ ID NO:3.

10. - 17. (Cancelled)

- 18. (Currently amended) An oxidation-resistant ribonuclease inhibitor (RI) variant differing from reference SEQ ID NO: 3, wherein the difference consists of at least one of the residues an alanine residue at positions position 95, 96, 329 and or 330 being an alanine.
- 19. (Previously presented) An RI variant of Claim 18, the residues at positions 329 and 330 being alanine residues.
- 20. (Currently amended) An oxidation-resistant ribonuclease inhibitor (RI) variant differing from reference SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the difference consisting consists of at least one of the residues an alanine residue at positions position 324 and or 325 being an alanine.

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- 21. (New) An RI variant of Claim 20, the residues at positions 324 and 325 being alanine residues.
- 22. (New) An RI variant of Claim 18, the residues at positions 95 and 96 being alanine residues.
- 23. (New) An RI variant of Claim 18, the residues at positions 95, 96, 329 and 330 being alanine residues.